



Hearing loss following radiotherapy

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Radiation therapy is increasingly being used on head and neck tumors, and close to 100 percent of the radiation delivered may reach the structures of the auditory system. Tinnitus and high frequency hearing loss are acute effects occasionally occurring during cranial irradiation. Often, these symptoms are due to radiation-induced otitis media, causing mucosal vasodilatation and eustachian tube edema. Symptoms often resolve spontaneously, but occasional patients may need myringotomy for symptomatic relief. Hearing loss months to years after radiation is usually due to sensorineural damage that occurs in patients treated for head and neck cancer. In this review we explain types of hearing loss induced- radiation therapy and protection hearing

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